

## CHAPTER XIV

### A PERILOUS PLIGHT

A FEW minutes later the two families—complete this time—with Captain Harry Gould and the boatswain, were together in the store-house in the middle of the island, five hundred paces from the battery knoll over which the flag of New Switzerland floated, Fritz, Frank, and Jenny were clasped to the hearts of M, and Mme, Zermatt and - covered with kisses ; James, Dolly, Susan, and Bob were unable to extricate themselves from the embraces of Mr. and Mrs. Wolston; and much hand-shaking was exchanged with Captain Gould and the boatswain.

Then they had to exchange stories of the fifteen months which had passed since the day when the *Unicorn* disappeared behind the heights of False Hope Point, bearing away Jenny Montrose, Fritz, Frank, and Dolly.

But before recalling all these past events, it was necessary to talk of the present.

For although they ..were reunited now, the two families were none the less in a serious

an  
position. The savages must  
ultimately